

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 NIC-01 /075 W

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R 081259Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1682

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

REF: LISBON 754

SUMMARY: PPD ACHIEVES FULL LEGAL RECOGNITION, COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS APPROVES PRESS LAW. GEN FABIAO DENIES FRANKFURTER
ALLGEMEINE QUOTES. END SUMMARY.

1. PORTUGUESE SUPREME COURT ANNOUNCED THAT POPULAR DEMOCRATIC
PARTY (PPD) HAD BEEN FULLY LEGALIZED WITH COURTS ACCEPTANCE
OF REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES.

(COMMENT: COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP), SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC CENTER PARTY

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(CSD), AND PPD HAVE ALL NOW COMPLETED REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL

LEGAL RECOGNITION. SOCIALISTS (PS) HAVE PRESENTED THEIR SIGNATURES AND ARE AWAITING RECOGNITION. POPULAR MONARCHISTS, (PPM) HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL PRESENT THEIR SIGNATURES ON FEB 15.)

2. FEB 8 LISBON PRESS ANNOUNCED THAT PRESS LAW HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WITH "A FEW ALTERNATIONS." (COMMENT: LAW NOW GOES TO COUNCIL OF STATE FOR APPROVAL. QUESTION IS WHETHER COMMUNISTS AND THEIR ALLIES HAVE SUCCEEDED IN KEEPING SOME VERSION OF AD HOC CENSORSHIP COMMITTEE IN BILL. EMBASSY CONTACTS TELL US THAT PASSAGE OF PRESS LAW WITHOUT RETENTION OF AD HOC CENSORSHIP COMMISSION WAS PART OF DEAL STRUCK BY PS AND PPD IN ORDER TO STAY IN COALITION AFTER PASSAGE OF UNITARY LABOR LAW.)

3. GENERAL FABIAO, ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) MEMBER AND CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF, ISSUED A DENIAL FEB 8 CONCERNING INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG (REFTEL). GEN. FABIAO SAID THAT QUOTATIONS DESCRIBED IN PARA 4 (A) AND 4(D) OF REFTEL SAYING AFM, CONTRARY TO PCP DESIRES, WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND THAT AFM FAVORS UNITARY LABOR STRUCTURE AS PROPOSED BY PCP ARE NOT CORRECT.

4. FABIAO SAID FIRST QUOTATION WAS NOT CORRECT BECAUSE THAT WOULD BE TO ADMIT INTRUSION OF PARTISAN POLITICS INTO THE AFM. SECOND QUOTATION NOT CORRECT BECAUSE AFM CONSIDERED UNION MATTER INDEPENDENTLY BEFORE PARTIES HAD TAKEN A POSITION.
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